8th August 1929]

Public Health

Disposal of S. No. 126 of Derebail village in Mangalore taluk reserved for communal purposes.

* 121 *Q.*—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether Government have received a memorial from the residents of Derebail, Bolur, Kodialbail and Kadri villages in Mangalore taluk regarding the disposal of old Survey No. 25 (present S. No. 126) of Derebail village which was reserved for communal purposes, viz., grazing, manure leaves and fuel and what orders have been passed thereon ?

A.—A memorial was received in May last from certain residents of Kavur, Bijai and Kadri villages of the Mangalore taluk protesting against the disposal of land called Haripadavu (S. Nos. 129 and 170–1) of Derebail village for use as a municipal trenching ground. This memorial has been referred to the Chairman, Municipal Council, and the Collector for remarks. No other memorial has been received.

Distribution of the allotment of Rs. 4 lakhs for temperance propaganda.

* 122 *Q.*—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state— 11-30 a.m.

(*a*) what steps he has taken to distribute the allotment of Rs. 4 lakhs for temperance propaganda ;

(*b*) the names of the persons and of the associations to whom the money has been or is proposed to be distributed ;

(*c*) the amounts to be given to each person or association ; and

(*d*) what steps, if any, he has taken or proposes to take to prevent this money being used for electioneering purposes by individuals or associations ?

A.—(*a*) *to* (*c*) A copy of G.O. No. 1597, P.H., dated the 26th June 1929, is laid on the table.[a] Steps are being taken to give effect to the scheme sanctioned in the Government Order.

(*d*) There is no apprehension that the funds will be diverted to purposes not connected with the scheme and no steps have been found necessary.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what is the definite object of the Government in this propaganda, whether it is to bring about prohibition or temperance ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Government order is laid on the table."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The Government Order is ambiguous. I am asking whether the object of the Government is to bring about prohibition or only to bring about temperance ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If the hon. Member will kindly tell me which portion of the Government Order is ambiguous I shall explain as much as I can."

Mr. F. E. JAMES :—" May I know whether any funds have been disbursed till now ? "

The hon. Mr S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No, Sir."

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[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 336–342 infra.

[8th August 1929

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am asking with reference to second paragraph of the Government Order at page 26 of the appendix. This is what it says : 'The Committee was unanimously of opinion that the first essential step was the creation of an active public opinion throughout the Presidency against drink and the education of the masses on the evils of drink in order that temperance or prohibition legislation undertaken might have the co-operation and support of the general public.' I am asking what the object of the Government in carrying out this propaganda is? Is it for prohibition or for temperance?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" As it is, prohibition includes temperance."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" May I know whether this propaganda includes the picketing of persons at the toddy and auction sales?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Government Order is laid on the table. If the hon. Member infers it is there, it is there: otherwise it is not."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—" May I know whether the question of distributing the funds by the local boards was considered and whether any decision was arrived at?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That was considered, but in view of certain difficulties it was thought desirable that the work of distribution should be entrusted to district committees appointed for the purpose, who will consult the local boards also when so distributing."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" May I know if the Government are going to allot funds for organizations which have been doing temperance work for carrying on this propaganda work in their respective areas?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Government Order lays down that there will be district committees and they will arrange for the work of propaganda."

Mr. ABDUL HAMEED KHAN :—" Has he fixed any qualifications for these associations to enable them to draw these grants?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" There is no life limit fixed."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGIASWAMI MUDALIYAR :—" May I know whether the Government will allow the Central Board to allot funds to organizations who are doing prohibition work and not for temperance work?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Temperance also includes prohibition within its scope."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" The hon. Member has not referred to the first paragraph of the Government Order. This is what it states :—' The creation of an active public opinion throughout the Presidency against the use of alcoholic liquors and intoxicating drugs such as opium, ganja, etc., in order that any temperance or prohibition measures or legislation undertaken for attaining the goal of total prohibition may have the co-operation and support of the general public.' May I ask whether the Government have taken any steps to warn the people who bid at auctions that they are likely to suffer as the result of the propaganda of Government and, if not, why not?"

8th August 1929]

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The propaganda has been in the air for the last about a year and no complaint has been received from the public."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Have the Government any apprehension about their loss in the excise revenue owing to this propaganda ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That will be known only at the end of the year. Even if there is a loss the Government must be prepared for it."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Are not people who bid at the auction of these toddy shops apprehensive of this propaganda ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably—they may be."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know the number of members of the Central Board and their functions and whether any preliminary arrangements have been made to carry out the object of the Government in relation to posters, literature, etc., and whether any practical steps have been taken to achieve their object ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The Central Board has not yet appointed the district committees. The district committees will be appointed in the course of two or three days."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Central Board will not take up the work of preparing temperance literature, etc., before the district committees are set up ?

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" The necessary preliminaries are being made."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know whether the district committees will consist of Excise officers and, if so, whether they will be instructed to carry on their old policy of encouraging drink ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" No such instructions have been issued."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" May I know whether there is any condition precedent to the appointment of the members of the Board that they should be tea-totallers ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR .—" If the Central Board thinks that this question is important, they will take necessary steps."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI :—" I am asking whether the members of the Central Board should be tea-totallers ? "

The hon Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Probably, persons who drink will know the evils of drinking much better than others."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to answer (*d*) and with reference to paragraph VII of the appendix, may I know if the Government have taken any steps or propose to take any steps to see that the Pracharakas who are to be appointed by the committees are not electioneering agents of the members of the Board ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" If it comes to the notice of the Government that any such misuse is being made, they will take necessary steps."

[8th August 1929

Mr. B. Venkataratnam :—(in Telugu) "May I know whether picketing will be included in the propaganda work?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"I do not think that picketing is any propaganda. Picketing is action and not propaganda."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—"May I know if 'such other methods' include propaganda not to bid at sales of toddy and liquor shops?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"A committee has been appointed to prepare literature; they will consider all these matters."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—"May I know from the hon. Minister whether any specific steps have been taken as a preliminary measure?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"Materials for preparing the literature and for having magic lantern pictures are being collected from various places."

Government Orders on the recommendations of the Special Malaria Officer.

*123 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any and if so, what orders have been passed by Government on the various recommendations made by the Special Malaria Officer in his report on the malaria survey conducted by him in the Puttur taluk (South Kanara) as per G.O. No. 2353, P.H., dated 7th November 1928;

(b) whether the said Government Order requires the said officer to continue his investigations in other taluks as well; and

(c) why such investigation or survey has not been extended to the said other taluks?

A.—(a) The report of malaria survey by the Special Malaria Officer in the Puttur taluk, South Kanara district, has been communicated to the Puttur Taluk Board. The Taluk Board has been asked to provide funds for the programme of anti-malarial measures prepared by the District Health Officer in the order of urgency and to appoint the necessary staff for the purpose.

(b) & (c) Yes. The Special Malaria Officer has subsequently been directed to carry out the investigation in the malarial tracts of other taluks, South Kanara district, in December or January next when the season will be suitable for the work.

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"May I ask whether the Special Malaria Officer has not reported that this taluk which he inspected is the worst in the whole of the Presidency in respect of malaria?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"He has reported that it is a very bad taluk."

Mr. K. R. Karant :—"May I know whether the Government approve of the preventive measures suggested in the report?"

The hon. Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar :—"The Government have approved the measures and that is the reason why they have asked the taluk board to see that those measures are adopted."